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## Maine Federation News vol. III, no. 2 (May 1927)

Maine Federation of Women's Clubs Staff

*Maine Federation of Women's Clubs*

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## THE NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

The New England Conference was held on October 7 and 8 at the Mountain View House, amid the glorious autumn foliage, with an attendance of 318 delegates and visitors. Maine sent a splendid delegation of sixteen delegates and ten visitors, and Maine contributed in large measure to the success of the program.

The themes of this year's Conference were the Perpetuation of New England Ideals, and a consideration of the Economic Needs of New England. Mr. A. L. T. Cummings, Secretary Maine Chamber of Commerce, gave a fine address on "Why New England Needs Publicity." Mr. Andrew Felker of Nashua spoke on the Food Problems of New England, and Mr. Charles Tobey of Manchester presented dramatically the Economic Future of New England. Each address was followed by live, pertinent debate from the delegates.

At the round table discussion on New England Ideals, Maine's State President, Miss Witherle, gave a scholarly and able presentation of the Modern Trend in Education. Mrs. Huddilston, Mrs. Moseley and Mrs. Myrtle White all contributed to the discussions. At the post-prandial exercises

after the dinner, when Grace Morrison Cooke was the brilliant toastmistress, Miss Witherle toasted Maine in charming fashion, Mrs. Stanley responded to the conference's acceptance of the beautiful gavel presented by her, Mr. Cummings recited some Canadian verse, and the chairman paid a tribute to New Hampshire, which aimed also to present the keynote of the conference.

Exquisite pictures, called the March of the Seasons in the Highlands, were given by Albert Leonard Squiers. Mrs. Edward Franklin White, First Vice-President of the General Federation and honored guest of the Conference, delivered a masterly address on Law Observance, which brought to a close one of the best sessions of the New England Conference.

Singing of state songs and of New England songs was a notable feature in this delightful program which had been arranged by Mrs. Guy Speare, the gracious President of the New Hampshire Federation. The social features included a drive and tea at Bethlehem, with Mrs. Glessner as hostess, assisted by Mrs. Francis Parkinson Keyes.

MRS. HARRY H. BURNHAM,  
Chairman.

### GENERAL FEDERATION BOARD MEETING

In the second year of office the President of the Maine Federation is also a Director of the General Federation. As Director for Maine, Miss Witherle attended the Board meeting of the General Federation held at Headquarters in Washington January 11 to 13. The Board consists of the officers and department chairmen of the General Federation and a Director from every state.

Officers and chairmen gave plans of their work and each Director gave a two-minute report of Federation interest in her state. Various business matters were discussed and voted upon. During one of the business sessions the news that the Senate had passed the act for the extension of the Shepard-Towner Bill for two years was greeted with applause, as the Federation had gone on record at the Biennial in favor of this Act.

In addition to the business meeting the Board was received at the White House by Mrs. Coolidge and at the Executive Offices by President Coolidge. A tea was given in honor of the Board by Mrs. Hoover, and the Board was entertained at tea both by the Democratic and by the Republican National Committee Women.

Miss Witherle reports her pleasure in seeing the fine shelf of books presented to Headquarters by Maine Clubs. Headquarters has recently suggested that it would be glad to receive a book (non-fiction) from every federated club.

### WEST EDEN COMMUNITY CLUB COMES TO FRONT

One of the recently federated clubs, the West Eden Community Welfare Club, has fitted up a hall where community gatherings, as well as club meetings may be held. A Christmas party was given in the hall and all the children of the neighborhood were entertained. In addition to regular program meetings, the Club members occasionally meet to sew for someone who on account of illness has been unable to do her family sewing.

### AMERICAN HOMES NATIONAL CONGRESS

I think it is well worth our while in these crowded, unsettled times, when substitutes for the genuine things of life are being sought on every hand, to spend four days of concentration upon keeping the American Home intact, as we propose to do at our First American Homes National Congress to be held in Des Moines March eighth to eleventh.

For such an institution as the Home there can be no substitute. Our citizenship is based upon it.

### GENERAL FEDERATION NOTES

Mrs. Sherman, President of the General Federation, believes that it is very important to secure accurate knowledge of the organization and work of the pioneer clubs in every state. Every Maine club that was organized before 1895, is urged to send to Miss Witherle for details of the information that is desired.

Do you know of the Prize Contest, a project of the Fine Arts Department of the General Federation, conducted by the Club Corner of Scribner's Magazine? A prize of \$25.00 is offered by the Literature Division of the General Federation, in honor of Katherine Lee Bates, author of "America the Beautiful," for the best poem of not less than twelve, nor more than forty lines. Prizes are offered for the best list of two hundred books written by American authors and published in America. For details apply to our Maine Federation Literature Chairman, Mrs. Harry H. Burnham, Biddeford, Maine. Prizes are also being offered by the Art Division and the Music Division of the General Federation. Suggestive questions on Art prepared by Mrs. Berry, Chairman of the Art Division of the General Federation, were printed in the December and January numbers of Scribner's.

The bill-board policy of the General Federation is that the landscape is no place for advertising and that bill-boards should be restricted to commercial districts. The Federation's method for bill-board reform is a public opinion campaign to emphasize the value of out-door beauty and to urge its protection from unnecessary commercialism. The bill-board industry has removed some of its boards from scenic spots but still consider the general landscape as their legitimate field for advertising. Hence effective regulation of bill-boards must come through legislation.

Let us protect it and improve it. Let us make it efficient. Let us, both men and women, regard Homemaking as a profession and as a God-given duty, conducting it with the same attention and precision that we give to our business institutions, adding to these efforts the spiritual qualities that tend to keep life in the right channels.

MARY SHERMAN,  
President General Federation  
of Women's Clubs.



# Maine Federation News

Miss ANNA C. WITHERLE, President

Mrs. BERNICE J. YOUNG, Editor

VOLUME III.

MAY, 1927

NO. 2

## Maine Accepts Challenge to Reduce Illiteracy

### GENERAL PLAN OUTLINED

BY MRS. EVA C. MASON

After the Federation meeting at Augusta, February 11, 1927, it was decided that Maine should start her crusade against illiteracy by a special drive in Kennebec County.

Mrs. Blackman, chairman of education in the General Federation, had requested that each state federation should try to get the co-operation of the State Department of Education in taking a census of illiterates in some one county of the state and then in starting evening classes and individual teaching for their instruction.

Mrs. Elizabeth Crooker of South Berwick, chairman of illiteracy in the Maine Federation, secured the interest and active assistance of Dr. A. O. Thomas, Commissioner of Education. With the approval of Governor Brewster and his Council, Dr. Thomas planned with Mrs. Crooker for the campaign in Kennebec County and appointed Mrs. Florence H. Pendleton of Lewiston and myself to take charge of the work. It was regretted that Mrs. Crooker was unable to leave her home to share in the drive.

To gain a knowledge of what was being done in other parts of the state, evening schools in Bangor, Portland, and Lewiston were first visited. The Bangor school was found to be doing splendid work in Americanization, the Portland school excellent work among illiterates, and work along similar lines was being done in Lewiston.

A canvass is made in sections of the town where illiterates are more likely to be found and the pupils are rounded up by some of the teachers two weeks before school starts. Men and women are usually taught in the same building, but in separate classes.

### A Speaking Campaign

In order to arouse interest in the campaign, I spoke before the D. A. R. annual meeting in Portland in March, before the Waterville Woman's Club; and in May I am to speak to the Onawa Literary Union.

Mrs. Pendleton explained the work to the Grange, the Dames of Malta, Directors of the Home for Aged Women, and the Androscoggin Literary Union. All of these organizations are ready to do what they can to help.

We have sent material for teaching to the Benevolent Society of Hallowell. In Augusta the East Side Association, Augusta Study Club, and W. C. T. U. have

### THE MAINE SONG

Frances Meserve Cotton  
Air—Tramp, Tramp, Tramp  
Way up next the border line  
Of the map of U. S. A.  
You will find it written  
M-A-I-N-E,  
And no matter where you roam  
That's the word that stands  
for Home  
Where our faithful hearts  
will ever long to be.

### Chorus

Maine, Maine, Maine,  
We sing thy glory,  
Rivers, Pines and Rocky  
Shores,  
We can all thy beauty see,  
And our clubs will loyal be  
As we pledge our toast to  
thee forevermore.  
  
We grow pines to make the  
masts,  
Also corn to fill the cans,  
While we follow where our  
motto says "I Lead."  
With fidelity we'll strive  
As club women all should do  
To uphold our State in every  
time of need.

been approached and members of the different organizations have volunteered to act as teachers.

### Locating Illiterates

The main part of our work has been to secure the names and addresses of illiterates. This has been done principally through the schools. With the permission of superintendents and teachers, we went into the grade schools and asked the children to write the names of any persons they knew who could neither read or write in any language. The children were much excited and were delighted to give us many names. Other names were obtained through ministers, priests, superintendents of mills, leaders in the American Legion, and Americanization workers.

The work of listing illiterates in Kennebec County is practically completed, although we have yet to hear from a few of the towns and rural regions. Exact figures  
(Continued on Page 2.)

### MRS. PENDLETON'S STORY

### COVERS HER EXPERIENCE

When Mrs. Mason and I were appointed by Dr. Thomas to represent the State Department of Education in the Illiteracy campaign, one of the big problems confronting us was whether we could create interest enough among the local organizations to help us find those who were still illiterate out of the 1633 illiterates listed in Kennebec County by the U. S. census of 1920.

We started on our work intending to do our best to find these illiterates and to induce the club women to reach those whom the night schools might fail to reach—mothers with little children, men who work at night, those too proud to let others know their deficiencies. But no matter how much we wanted to succeed, we could go only so far as the co-operation of the club women would let us.

I don't know just how Mrs. Mason felt, in the time between accepting our responsibility and actually working for our objective. I am going to be frank to say that, although I could see the downright tragedy of going through life an illiterate, lurking in the back of my mind was the hopeless thought—how can the women take on any more? A privilege and wonderful opportunity for the club women, yes, but where was the time coming from?

### Met Cordial Support

The first club I visited gave me one of the happiest experiences I have ever had, when I never needed encouragement more. I arrived at the club in Augusta, I opened the door, expecting to see a few women of some study club, who might listen politely to what I had to say, and found a score of women working like bees, with machines humming away under their rapid work.

They were a benevolent association caring for the poor in their section of the town. They didn't stop working but changed to more quiet sewing and listened while I told my story and displayed the reader and writing tablet. Fourteen of those fine women volunteered as teachers for the illiterates and six others as substitutes if needed.

The women responded at the first call and have been doing so ever since. Club after club has voted to do what it can to help in removing illiteracy from Kennebec County. However, while we have made our intensive drive in Kennebec, we are hoping that other clubs besides those reported  
(Continued on Page 5.)



**FEDERATION NEWS****Official Organ**

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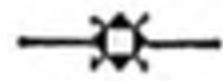
In this number of the NEWS we have given special place both to the illiteracy campaign and to interesting letters on jury duty for women which connect with the subject of "Know Your Courts." It had been hoped to have a joint report on the work done for illiteracy. But as the work in Kennebec County was not entirely completed when material for the NEWS was needed, it seemed better to print parts of separate reports sent to Mrs. Crooker by Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Pendleton.

We may be proud that Dr. Thomas selected two club women to do the work, and I want to bear personal witness to the energy and devotion which they both gave to this new and difficult task.

It has been gratifying to see the hearty response to the various suggestions and questionnaires. Club after club has reported the use of the quiz on courts and many clubs are working on the court survey. About 50 clubs have sent to me the answers to the five questions of Mrs. Sherman on the aims and achievements of clubs. These answers show a splendid record of community service and will be kept in the Federation Archives. If the clubs that have not yet answered these questions, will write to me, blanks will be sent to them. We are also receiving many replies to the inquiries in regard to the older clubs in Maine. In response to requests, the "Maine Song" is printed in this NEWS. There is no intention of replacing the "Pines of Maine" which will always be the Federation Song, but it is often desirable to have another song in lighter vein to sing at club meetings, luncheons, etc. Many of the state federations have two songs, and we were very glad that Mrs. Frances Meserve Cotton, author of the song and president of the Woman's Club of Gorham, allowed

us to use her song at club and Federation meetings.

ANNA C. WITHERLE.



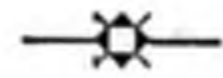
With this issue of the NEWS most clubs will have completed another year's program. To the average club this means an increased interest in two events; the election of officers (a new slate perhaps), and plans for another year's program. We hope we are in time to suggest your co-operation with the Department Chairmen of the State Federation, who stand ready to help you carry out broadervisioned programs, programs that are planned to give a bigger and better understanding of problems both local and general. More and more the individual club is beginning to realize its importance as a factor in the various departments of the State Federation, and of the reciprocal value to each in co-operation with the other.

The question arises,—do club women actually read our little publication, and are they receiving help and inspiration by keeping informed of the things their sister club women are doing. If you have accomplished successfully some community project, pass it on to other club women who are up against similar problems.

New clubs are being constantly formed and federated. Several of the new clubs have a place in this issue of the NEWS in which they tell us of their work as well as of their aims and ambitions for the future. Pass on to them the results of your years of experience and they in turn will give of their new ideas.

So far this year about 450 club members have subscribed for the Maine Federation News. This is a larger subscription list than we had last year, but not nearly as large as it should be. There is still time to send your subscription to Mrs. Ruth Ellingwood, Rockland.

BERNICE J. YOUNG.

**GENERAL PLAN OUTLINED**

BY MRS. EVA C. MASON

(Continued from Page 1.)

cannot yet be given but the number of illiterates is probably at least 1200.

Very little actual teaching has yet been done. It was thought that evening classes could best be started in the fall when other classes start.

In Dover-Foxcroft the Cosmopolitan Club has listed the illiterates, and the educational committee, under its chairman, Mrs. Dyer, has all its plans made for a class to be held every Friday evening from October to April. The books and tablets will be furnished by Dr. Thomas and the teaching will be done by Mrs. Dyer and other club women. If a regular evening school with paid teachers is started by a town, the state will pay two-thirds of the expense.

**INTERNATIONAL****AFFAIRS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORT**

The committee on International Relations at this time wishes to call attention of clubs, to the importance of giving one or more afternoons on the program for the ensuing year to this question.

All departments of Federation activities are useful but, underlying all work of civic and educational appeal, is the paramount question of how the nations of the earth are going to regard one another and treat one another in the future.

The answer to questions of our National and State life is determined by the answer to questions of International import.

Mrs. Rufus Dawes of Illinois, national chairman of this department, has asked all chairmen to assist her in organizing and extending definite program work along this line, that a clearer understanding may be obtained of those problems which concern a closer world relationship.

The committee feels quite sure of a cordial response from the clubs.

(Mrs.) Grace H. Thompson,  
Chairman.

**ACTIVE AND USEFUL IS****AUBURN ART CLUB**

The Auburn Art Club is primarily a study club. We have held twelve meetings exclusive of the annual and we feel that it has been a very interesting year. Several of our programs have consisted of musical and literary contributions by the club members; there being talks or papers given by ten members. Eight of our programs have also included travel talks and lectures on various subjects by outside speakers. Among the subjects studied there have been "Fannie Hurst—Woman and Author;" "American Painters;" "Bells;" "Post-war Germany;" "Immigration;" "Devon and Cornwall, England;" "Belgium and Scotland;" "Southern Poetry by Negroes."

Although we are a study club we are interested in the Health Work of Maine and our local Community Service. During the year we have made financial contributions to the Scholarship Fund of the State Federation, Maine Public Health Association, our local Central Maine General Hospital, The Red Cross Baby Milk Fund, and our local Y. W. C. A., and are also paying the expenses of a girl to the Y. W. C. A. Camp for ten days the coming summer.

RUTH D. AULT, Sec.



## MAINE CLUB WOMAN ADDRESSES CONNECTICUT LEGISLATURE

My dear Miss Witherle:

Your letter in regard to my trip to Hartford is just received. To be frank, it doesn't seem to me of enough importance to merit a separate item. However, the facts are these: The League of Women Voters of Connecticut wrote me asking me if I would come to Hartford and speak before the Judiciary Committee of their Legislature. The League is doing all that it can to obtain jury service for women which the Legislature rejected two years ago. The League wanted a woman to be heard and SEEN who had actually served as foreman of a jury and lived to tell the tale. I expected to speak before a joint committee of perhaps fifteen or twenty.

What was my dismay to find when I reached Hartford that the Legislature had adjourned for the afternoon and given the use of the House to the assembled crowd of interested and curious people. I am free to confess that for a few minutes I was frightened, plain scared. But a little mental scolding, and I got hold of myself and was able to tell my story of the manner in which the men jurors greeted the other woman juror and myself, not one unpleasant, discourteous, or disagreeable incident occurring in the two terms I served on the jury. At the hearing they asked a number of questions as to women being shut up with men smoking, also about our

being locked up in murder trials, how our courts functioned, etc. Fortunately I was able to answer intelligently and to the point. It was a novel idea for them to learn of a woman deputy who shared her room with the women jurors if they so desired, and on a murder trial went with them to the hotel for the night. I was so full of my subject that I entirely forgot myself. I cited some cases in which the men deferred to our judgment. One question asked was in effect, "How would you have been able to serve if you had had little children to care for?" I answered promptly, "No Maine judge would have refused to excuse me from duty in such a case."

I received a letter yesterday from the secretary of the Connecticut League in which she says: "I have heard many expressions of approval of the way in which you told your story, and I think without doubt if we get jury duty, it will be a determining factor." I hope she is a true prophet, but didn't I suffer for a few minutes!

I fear I have answered too much at length, but I wanted you to understand the tenor of the questions.

Yours most truly,

(Mrs. F. M.) ISABEL T. RAY.

(Mrs. Ray is a member of the Ammonconglin and Current Events Clubs of Westbrook, and of the Women's Literary Union of Portland.)

### MRS. ELLIS ON JURY DUTY

Some one must serve on the different juries. Why not you? It has been the custom to have only men jurors. We find it hard to break away from old customs, so in this new era of the woman juror, many think it not becoming to take a place in this body. Look at this thing fairly. A woman is equal in intellect to a man, her judgments are often truer, and her inherent dislike of crime and rum helps her to decide against both. I have just finished my third term as clerk of the Grand Jury in Somerset County, and I am optimistic in believing that our part of the world at least is growing better, for each term was shorter than the preceding one, the one of last week taking only one day, the shortest on record for some time.

One outstanding fact in a jury room is the big place that alcohol occupies in, I feel safe to say, ten cases out of twelve. Men or women cannot leave the jury room, if true men and women, without at once enlisting in the temperance cause. I think it is a mistake that our recent Legislature did not see fit to class the buyer of the liquor with the seller. Why not? The last speech of our honored Senator Carter favored the condemning of the buyer with the seller.

We are citizens of our State.

As such we should take our places on juries to see that justice is done. It has been said to me, "There must be unpleasant things connected with jury duty." There are, but nothing that a womanly woman need be afraid to face. It is false modesty that refuses to know of and help promote the laws of God and man. When you are called, go into the jury room. Listen with clear head and heart, and vote as your conscience and your brain direct you.

KATE B. ELLIS.

### AMMONCONGIN CLUB, WESTBROOK

The Ammonconglin Club of Westbrook, has enjoyed one of the most successful years of its history. The meetings have been well worth while, and by "worth while" is meant that the time given has been well spent.

The program opened in November with an unusually fine musical afternoon on "The Folk Songs of Our Land." This, being translated, meant Indian melodies sung in costume by Mrs. Marion W. Theis, a past president of the Ammonconglin Club and secretary of the Maine Federation of Music Clubs. The program also included negro spirituals and sailors' chanteys.

This was followed by an afternoon on the Federal Reserve

Bank, a subject that many of us knew nothing about; not so after we had listened to an able talk by Mr. Harry Boyd of the Chapman Bank, Portland. Another meeting on a financial subject was a practical discussion of Safe Investments. This was in the capable hands of a member who is in the real estate and insurance business, and whose sound common sense coupled with definite knowledge made her talk of much value.

In mid-winter came an afternoon of domestic science under the title of "Culinary Masterpieces of Our Members." The chairman was well fitted for her "job." A food sale was held immediately before the meeting and the "Masterpieces" went like hot cakes. At roll call each member responded with a recipe. The chairman, Miss Laura E. Foster, gave a most original paper, "Hints and Helps." While this paper was witty and provoked much merriment, it was nevertheless of great practical value. Each member was given a written hint or help which had been actually tried. We had had masterpieces for the nourishment of the body and the next meeting was devoted to that wonderful masterpiece for the soul—the greatest book in all literature—The Bible. A feature of "Bible Day" was the roll call when each member gave her favorite verse and the reason of the choice. A fine discourse was given by Rev. John M. Arters of Portland.

In place of a Farm Demonstration Day we were able to get one of the National officers of the Grange who lives in our community, who kindly gave the afternoon to us. We certainly were not only entertained but enthused over her most able and practical talk on the working of the Grange, its aims and purposes as worked out in detail. In the latter part of March we listened to a charming "Garden Talk" not by a theoretical gardener, but by a practical one whose aim is to make "two spears of grass grow where but one did before;" Mrs. William E. Wing, president of the Portland Garden Club.

We have had the pleasure of entertaining Miss Anna C. Witherle, president of the State Federation, for an afternoon; also Mrs. John T. Skolfield, vice-president of the Federation.

MILDRED STEVENS WHITNEY,  
President.

### BRIDGTON LITERARY CLUB

Among the clubs which have taken seriously the suggestions at Maine Federation sessions that the Bible be studied as literature, the Bridgton Literary Club has adopted the practice this year of learning a new psalm each month, which is repeated in unison at the sessions. This takes the place of Scripture reading by the hostess.

At town meeting the club had a booth here and served refreshments, netting a goodly sum, which has been banked for later use. The club has subscribed to the Near East Relief Fund.



## REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

I attended five legislative hearings. At three I spoke for measures endorsed by the Federation and I stated that fact. At two hearings I quoted the sentiments of clubs which I had visited and before whom I had spoken on the bills in question.

In the first class were hearings for adequate provision for Mothers' Aid, for the choosing a state bird, and for the constitutional amendment permitting the Legislature to regulate and tax bill-boards.

In the second class were Miss Laughlin's bills to raise the legal age for marriage and the equal guardianship measure.

I sent a telegram to be read at the hearing on the Shepherd-Towner bill, since I was unable to be present, and one of the committee was present and spoke.

The Legislature appropriated more for Mothers' Aid than the Budget Committee recommended, but not as much as we asked.

The chickadee was made the State Bird. The bill-board measure was defeated, as was also the measure to raise the legal age of marriage. The equal guardianship measure was passed, and Maine accepted the provisions of the Shepherd-Towner Act.

ROSELLE WOODBRIDGE HUDDILSTON, Ch.

## CAMPAIGN FOR A STATE BIRD IS SUCCESSFUL

In the last few years club women have started campaigns in several states for the choice of a State flower and a State bird. As the Maine Legislature in 1895 adopted the Pine Cone and tassel as the floral emblem of the State, Mrs. Kelley and her committee on Conservation decided to work for a State bird. The committee members talked and wrote, visited schools and clubs, asking for the names of favorite birds. A State bird should be a year-round resident, a bird that is not a game bird, a helpful bird, and one with a voice, if not a song. Mrs. Kelley felt that the chickadee met these conditions and as the votes came in, this bird was unanimously chosen. The State Federation at its Annual Meeting at Kennebunkport voted in favor of the chickadee.

A resolve making the chickadee the State bird was framed and was introduced into the Legislature by Representative George R. Fuller of Southwest Harbor. At the hearing on the bill before the Education Committee, Mrs. Huddilston explained the reasons for having a State bird, and the ways in which the chickadee benefits plants and trees. Miss Witherle spoke of the value of the study of birds in the schools and read a letter of Mr. Wm. D. Hall, principal of Eastern State Normal School in Maine. He said that a group of teachers and pupils who are especially interested in birds approved of the chickadee as the State bird for the following reasons:

"The chickadee is a common, permanent resident in all of the counties of Maine. One of his songs 'tells his name' as he seems to say 'Chick-a-dee.' He is easily identified because of his characteristic color which is readily discernible because he often approaches the observer at close range. The chickadee possesses the qualities of optimism, cheerfulness, trustfulness, friendliness, honesty, and thrift to a marked degree. We believe that these

qualities are also characteristic of the State of Maine."

"We are all heartily in favor of this movement not only because we feel that it will tend to create a greater interest in birds along economic lines but also because we think that it will tend to bring the people of Maine and particularly the children of Maine to a better understanding of our Creator."

Some of the other states that have already chosen their state bird, are: Florida, the mockingbird; Kansas, the meadow lark; Louisiana, the pelican; Maryland, the oriole; Virginia, the robin.

MRS. CARL E. KELLEY,  
Ch. of Conservation Com.

## RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

The members of the Woman's Literary Club of Bar Harbor are much saddened by the passing away of one of their oldest and most valued members, Harriett N. Spratt.

Mrs. Spratt was one of its Charter Members, and the success of the Club is in a large measure due to her loyalty and devotion.

Those who have been so closely and intimately associated with her for a quarter of a century of Club work, love and appreciate her worth.

Mrs. Spratt was the author of our Club Collect, and her words which are present at each meeting will continue to be an inspiration as well as a benediction and a balm.

Resolved, that the Woman's Literary Club extend its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family, assuring them that we grieve for and with them in their irreparable loss.

Be it further resolved, that a copy of these Resolutions be sent to the family and a copy spread on our records.

MINNIE L. MILLIKEN,  
KATE B. CLEMENT,  
Com. on Resolutions.

Bar Harbor, Maine,  
March 3, 1927.

## CHAIRMAN ON "ART" OFFERS SUGGESTIONS

The following notices should prove of great interest to those clubs who are seeking to increase their knowledge of art and art appreciation:

From May 2 until May 13 there is to be an Art Institute at Bowdoin College, open to the public. The program is a remarkably worthy one.

George Harold Edgell, Dean of the Graduate School of Architecture of Harvard University, is to speak on "Why Do We Study the Fine Arts?"

Kenneth McGowan: "The Art of the Theatre, Today and Tomorrow."

Harvey Wiley Corbett, New York architect, will tell "Some Reasons for the Skyscraper."

Douglass Volk, a portrait painter, "Portraiture in the Field of Art."

Violet Oakley, "Mural Painting."

R. Tait McKenzie, a Philadelphia sculptor, will speak on "Athletic Sports as an Inspiration for Sculpture."

Wm. M. Quins, Curator of Prints at the Metropolitan in New York, will lecture on prints, and will hold a round table on book illustration.

Other speakers will be: Mrs. Geo. Grant MacCurdy, New Haven, representative of the American School of Prehistoric Research in Europe, has the subject: "Prehistoric Art."

Alfred H. Burr, Jr., of Boston, "Tendencies in Modern American Painting."

Prof. E. Baldwin Smith of Princeton, "What Makes Style in Architecture."

\* \* \*

May 18, 19 and 20: The National Convention of the American Federation of Art is to be held in Boston at the Statler Hotel. Any clubs who have a membership in this organization should send a delegate.

\* \* \*

Your own State Chairman of Art is to put on Art Week in Portland May 30 to June 4. The aim is to exhibit in as many ways as possible and in as many places as possible works of art (both Fine and Crafts) that shall be of such worth as to help raise the standards of appreciation, and increase the knowledge of art among all the people who can see and study them.

GRACE E. ALLYN.



## REMINDER OF MAINE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

If your club has not already given to the Scholarship Fund, will you not send a contribution to Mrs. Danforth this month, so that there may be money to lend to the girls who will be needing help in the fall? The Scholarship Fund expresses for the Federation as a whole, our interest in education and our desire to serve. So far less than half of our clubs have given to the Fund this year.

### MRS. PENDLETON'S STORY COVERS HER EXPERIENCE

(Continued from Page 1.)

are working in their respective towns and counties.

Without special call, we have reports from two other counties. A young man teaching in Rockwood has a class of seven, from neighboring lumber camps and settlements. These evening classes in the woods of Maine might be likened to the Moonlight Schools of Kentucky. Two city superintendents of schools have sent word they are getting lists to help us during school census taking. One college professor is giving extra credit in his Bible study course to those of his pupils who are teaching at a night school of illiterates.

After telling several clubs that "it was no trick at all" to teach an illiterate to write his name in one evening with everyone apparently believing it, I began to wonder whether we were telling the truth or a fairy tale. I recently had occasion to find out and another happy surprise!

In visiting a foreign settlement in one of the cities, we found six women in one home, all illiterates and all anxious to learn. They seemed to think if we would start them right there and then, they would try it. Here was our chance to get practice instead of theory. We were there one hour. They all were in various stages of writing when we left—from holding the pencil so it would write to having learned to write one's own name—and a hard one it was—Lottie Ezhaya. She told us that she was going to put the babies to bed early that night so she could practice all the evening writing her name.

Another woman thanked us with tears in her eyes, after learning to write "Mary." Her tenth child tugged at her skirt as she was trying to write, and, looking up with his big black eyes, kept saying, "Mama, Mama," wondering what it was all about. This group was turned over to a club woman of the town who is to continue the class once a week.

There will be a great many illiterates who can be reached only by group or individual work. That is where the club women are

## PRACTICAL PROGRAM HINTS

A program on birds with especial emphasis on the chickadee will show our appreciation of the work of our Conservation Chairman, Mrs. Carl E. Kelley, who suggests the following Club Program:

Roll-call—Quotation on Birds

Songs:

"I Heard a Bird" Proctor

"The Robin" Nevin

"The Dove" Folk Song

Papers: Our Native Birds

The Migration of Birds

Economic Value

State and National Laws for Protection of Birds

Sketches of Audubon, Muir, Burroughs

Readings: Bryant's Gladness of Nature

Bryant's Return of the Birds

Van Dyke's "Song Out of Doors"

"Little Rivers"

Cary's "What a Bird Taught"

Longfellow's "Birds of Killingworth"

\* \* \*

A meeting on Illiteracy based on the book "Moonlight Schools" by Cora Wilson Stewart, will be both opportune and interesting. Be sure that Mrs. Stewart's book is in your town library.

\* \* \*

If your club has not already used the quiz on "Know Your Courts," plan to use it in your next year's program. If you have used it, perhaps you can plan for a meeting on some aspect of our laws and our courts. The study of juvenile delinquency and its prevention would be worth while. Plan to have talks by some of your members who have visited courts.

If programs are made far in advance, it is helpful to leave a few open dates. Then if some urgent suggestions come from state or national chairmen, or if some unexpected speaker becomes available, there will be space for them on the program.

\* \* \*

Family Finance: A new division of Family Finance has been formed in the General Federation with Mrs. Edith M. Patterson, 121 Saw Mill Road, Dayton, Ohio, as chairman, and Mrs. Annie Peaks Kenny, Illinois Merchants Trust Co., Chicago (formerly of Dover-Foxcroft), as adviser.

"Since women are spending 85% of the \$66,000,000,000 of our annual payroll and since 80% of all savings accounts are in women's names, it behooves the women of America to know how best to handle this money both in spending and in investing it." Any club that is desirous of having a meeting on Banking and Investment can secure suggestions and booklets from Mrs. Bessie Mott, 19 Warren Street, New York City. If a club is interested in the study of insurance, assistance can be secured from Miss Alice Lakey, 77 Cortland Street, New York City.

\* \* \*

The new chairman of International Relations in the General Federation is Mrs. Rufus C. Dawes, 1800 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Ill. Outlines for study can be secured from Mrs. Dawes or from Headquarters, 1734 N Street, Washington, D. C. Do we really know the facts of the organization and work of the World Court and of the League of Nations? Can we not include a study of these facts in next year's program? And also a study of the past and present foreign policy of the United States?

\* \* \*

Literature: Mrs. Burnham endorses the suggestion given last year by Mrs. Libby that clubs try to interest children in the Reading Courses for Children, sponsored by the State Library. (Consult Mrs. Theresa Stuart, Augusta.) Mrs. Burnham also urges that more clubs become acquainted with modern poetry. Do you know the works of Edna St. Vincent Millay, our own Maine poet, and of Robert Frost, Sara Teasdale and many others?

needed. Special committees can be appointed to organize small groups of illiterates and to check up on the way the group is taught.

I had one woman quite enthused and anxious to teach an illiterate of whom she knew. So I gave her the tablet and reader and all instructions I thought necessary. In a couple of weeks I went around to see how they were progressing. She said, "Oh, all right, I think. He was delighted when I gave him the tablet. I told him to take it home and practice writing more in it.

The fact that she should supervise the writing never occurred to her.

Just as Dr. Thomas responded immediately to Mrs. Crooker's appeal for help, so Mrs. Mason and I have received the co-operation of the members of every club which we have called upon. If all counties do as well as Kennebec, we need have no fear but that the club women of Maine, in this national crusade against illiteracy, can say to the club women of other states, "We had to live up to our motto, Dirigo—I Lead."



## HIGHWAY SAFETY—LET CLUB WOMEN SET EXAMPLE

To Maine Club Women:

I cannot refrain from saying a word to you, as summer draws near, concerning our personal responsibility for highway safety. Twenty-six children were killed in Maine last year by automobiles and over 22,600 persons in the U. S. in street and highway accidents.

Many children wilfully disobey, but many more are innocent victims of careless and selfish drivers. A car going at twenty-five or thirty miles an hour through our city streets cannot stop in season to save a bewildered child who turns back or hesitates, nor to avoid running over a person should he stumble or fall in crossing the street. These cars are not always driven by the youth or the intoxicated.

"Keep walking to keep well," the doctors advise. To be sure; "and occasionally jump," the joker says. We have always joked about our most serious problems and jokes of this style are very popular today. This is making a joke of tragedy.

May we not as club women make a solemn resolve that we will know and obey our traffic laws? If every club woman in this state would use her own personal influence, a great deal could be done to reduce the danger of these awful tragedies. We could do this by: (a) co-operation with motor clubs; (b) co-operation with city officials; (c) co-operation with park boards; (d) co-operation with traffic lines; (e) co-operation with pedestrians.

**JOSEPHINE DRUMMOND,**  
Chairman Com. on Recreation,  
Street and Highway Safety and  
Fire Protection.

## DEXTER CLUB EMPHASIZES CIVIC BETTERMENT

There was a large attendance April 6th when Civic Afternoon Day was held with Mrs. Mabel Strout as leader. The Know Your Courts Quiz was conducted by Mrs. Gertrude C. Waldron, the members responding heartily and all seemed interested in the subject. A salute to the Flag was given and America the Beautiful and the Star Spangled Banner were sung by the Club.

Mrs. Blanche Atkins read the annual report of Penobscot County Probation Officer, Rev. Ashley A. Smith, for the year 1926. Members were interested to know that thirty-five people had been placed on probation from the various courts of the county. "Last year in New York State," says the report, "77.7% of all persons finishing their probation terms were discharged as successful. In Massachusetts the figure is 83.4% of those persons who completed their probation terms without default. The state probation committee of Mass. says the use of probation has been increasing each year with good results. The prison population is now about one-third what it

once was and a number of jails have been closed. There has been a decrease in crimes and there has been no crime wave." Closing his report Doctor Smith says: "A little calm figuring in the matter of thirty-five probationers in this jurisdiction alone extending over periods from one year to three months, would indicate an economic gain in money alone which would justify the increasing use of the office."

On higher grounds than that of mere monetary economy who can estimate the saving to good citizenship, especially of the youth of our community."

A juror's experience was written for the Club by Mrs. Ethel Carleton, who served as a traverse juror of the Superior Court in November, 1926. Mrs. Carleton in a very interesting and witty manner, told of her feelings when summoned by the officer, her anxiety regarding the matter from the time she was drawn until she was actually at court and chosen forewoman of the first jury. She told many interesting things as to court proceedings and went into details, giving us a new insight into the workings of the law, discussing all parts of procedure and telling of her personal experiences as forewoman. In closing she said that, notwithstanding her early shrinking and nervousness, she thoroughly enjoyed the performance of her duties and felt well repaid in the knowledge obtained and the new interest in matters of law and order, and she further urged women to take their turn as jurors if so fortunate as to be chosen.

Through the efforts of the Ways and Means Committee we were able to donate quite a substantial sum to the support of the Public Health Nurse. They raised this money by holding a public whist at the home of one of our members.

One of our members, Mrs. Strout, gave a talk on "Birds" to the Cosmopolitan Club, Dover-Foxcroft, Reciprocity Afternoon.

## NURSE AND REST ROOM AIDED BY CALAIS CLUB

Two outstanding entertainments on the program of the Woman's City Club, Calais, during the past year, were a musicale featuring the compositions of MacDowell, and a benefit movie, presenting Richard Dix and Betty Bronson.

In civic work the club has continued its support of the District Nurse and the Rest Room. The nursing service is supported in part by appropriations from the city and the State and by various gifts.

As is usually the case, the nurse collects from patients such amounts as they are able to pay. In addition to making 1,500 visits, the nurse this last year supervised the filling and distributing of over 100 baskets of Christmas cheer, conducted an observance of Child Health Week and conducted home nursing classes for girls in the ninth grade.

## THURSDAY CLUB STAGES BETTER HOMES EXHIBIT

The Thursday Club in Biddeford, under the direction of Mrs. Edith Gove, president, has just accomplished one of the finest pieces of club work ever done in this State, if not in New England, in the Better Homes Exhibit held at Pepperell recreation hall, Biddeford, April 7th.

The idea had its inception with club members at the New England conference, on hearing Mrs. Sherman's speech on "Better Homes with More Leisure Wisely Used," and it was decided that something could be done in the way of a Better Homes Exhibit.

It was first proposed to show a model, modern kitchen, arranged to make work easier for the housewife. The committee adopted the slogan "Better Things to Better Homes to Better People," and it was at once so catchy and so sincere that it caught the popular fancy and the movement gained such momentum that it became an exhibit of anything and everything carried by the local merchants to make the home more attractive and convenient.

The Better Homes Exhibit was the first of its kind ever attempted here and its importance, not only as an exhibit, but as a medium of advertising, soon became manifest. The eagerness with which space was sought by the merchants, and the readiness with which they and the general public co-operated with the Thursday Club, showed the popularity of and the need for such an enterprise.

A fine program was arranged with Mrs. Harry A. Burnham of Newtonville, Mass., giving her lecture on "Better Homes," being introduced by Mrs. Harry H. Burnham of Biddeford, also a leader in this work. Mrs. Allan P. Stevens of Portland gave a lecture on "Budgeting and Finance in the Home," and Miss Edith Soule, state superintendent of public health nurses, gave a talk on public health work, and the Red Cross demonstrated its work in the home.

In the evening a fashion show, put on by one of the local merchants, was a feature. The hall was well filled all day, and in the evening it was filled to capacity and hundreds were unable to gain admittance.

Mention also should be made of the display of articles made by the manual training class in the schools; also of an exhibit and demonstrations by the Red Cross; and of the fact that a real baby was introduced to bestir interest in a drive for funds for an improved Day Nursery.

The fashion show served to bring many in who otherwise might not have attended the Better Homes Exhibit; and the event proved to be a Biddeford Reciprocity Day in new form, as many club women came from all over York County. Miss Witherle, State Federation president, also was a guest and expressed surprise at the magnitude and significance of the affair.



**WANTED**

New clubs. Have you an unfederated club in your community? If so, send the name of the president of the club to Mrs. C. B. Porter, Old Town, Maine.

—

The address of May Watson who wrote Miss Witherle asking for a Year Book, Federation News and pin, but who failed to give her address.

(We felt very sorry this last item was not in the January News.)

—

By Mrs. B. J. Young, 44 Boutelle Road, a data sheet, carefully filled in, from every club that has not already sent such facts to Mrs. Young this spring. Don't forget to put in the addresses of your officers and don't leave out your "best work."

—

More club reports, both of study and of community service, for the September Maine Federation News.

**BURNHAM LITERARY CLUB TO BUILD CEMETERY FENCE**

As our club was organized only last September I am afraid our actions will hardly be worth mentioning in the Federation News. We have, however, had a very pleasant and instructive club year.

Our study of Maine has included some fine papers on Maine poets, Lakes of Maine and other interesting features. We have also taken up biographies of some of the great statesmen.

After giving a talk on Community Spirit, our president asked the question, "Can we not do something for our town?" and said, "I wish we might have a new fence around our cemetery." This suggestion met the approval of everyone present and a committee was appointed to take the matter under consideration. As a result of their efforts, quite a sum of money has been raised and we are hoping our new fence will be completed in the early summer.

We are anticipating having with us at one of our April meetings, Miss Witherle of the State Federation.

One very pleasant feature of our club year was an invitation which we accepted from the neighboring Pittsfield club to attend one of their meetings.

MINNIE GERALD, Pres.

**MRS. BURGIS COY ILL**

Maine club women will regret to learn that Mrs. Burgis Coy, author, playwright and lecturer, is at present confined in the Glendale Hospital, in Glendale, Cal., which will prohibit her visit east at this time.

**LISBON PROGRESSIVE CLUB****BOASTS LIVELY CLUB SONG**

The Lisbon Club lives up to its name in being "progressive." As far as is known, it is the only club in Maine to have a club song of its own, which is sung lustily at every meeting. The song is printed in this copy of the NEWS. The club has had some splendid meetings this year. The topics for the roll-calls have been varied and helpful: among them, Vacation Echoes, Kitchen Kinks, Christmas Stories, New Year Greetings, Items on Child Welfare, Original Rhymes, and Nature Witchery. The club is interested in civic affairs and devoted one meeting to a discussion of the town warrant. The reading of various articles led to a forceful and lively discussion of the measures, especially of those dealing with the schools and with sanitation. Miss Witherle was an interested listener to the discussion and later spoke on Federation matters. The year's program included two lectures, one on "Alaska" and one on "Red Letter Days" by Professor Tubbs of Bates College. The club has given a small sum to the Federation Scholarship Fund, and is endeavoring to carry out the suggestions of the Federation.

**CLUB SONG**

(Tune: John Brown's Body)

In Lisbon is a Woman's Club, PROGRESSIVE is its name.  
'Twas founded many years ago, and is well known to fame.  
To grow in wisdom, truth, and love has always been its aim,  
Our club is marching on.

**CHORUS**

Glory, glory, hallelujah, glory, glory, hallelujah,  
Glory, glory, hallelujah, our club is marching on.

We've studied poets, new and old, and countries small and great.  
In fact, we've tried in every way ourselves to educate.  
We want to try to reform the world, before it is too late.  
Our club is marching on.

**CHORUS**

We've learned to spiel on every theme, when called upon the floor,  
We've sought to be acquainted with all parliamentary lore,  
On music's wings we oft can let our weary spirits soar,  
Our club is marching on.

**CHORUS**

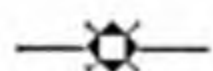
We've talked of economics and the culinary arts,  
If you think we're not proficient, you should test our cakes and tarts  
And to sit at a club banquet would indeed delight your hearts.  
Our club is marching on.

**CHORUS**

And now we have the ballot we can great things do and dare,  
For town and state and Nation we must surely have a care,  
Perchance we'll place a sister in the legislative chair, (they have)  
Our club is marching on.

**CHORUS****SMALLEST CLUB IN WORLD****COMPOSED OF TWO WOMEN**

The smallest club in the world is composed of two persons who live at the entrance of the famous Moffat Tunnel in Colorado, now being put through the very heart of the Rocky Mountains. It is alive to all issues of the day and we learn through the president, Mrs. Burgis Coy, that the club has just had a most interesting book week, notice of which will later be given to the press.

**INVALID AIDED BY****CAMDEN CLUB FUNDS**

The Camden Club, Friends in Council, which came into the Federation in 1925, has raised much money for community service. In January they held a rummage and food sale which lasted three days and brought in \$241.76. This money was given to a community fund which has been raised to aid

a nearly helpless boy who was stricken three years ago with infantile paralysis. Every six months the boy and his mother go to a Boston specialist. The boy has improved so that he can stand for ten minutes and can feed and otherwise help himself. The club also held a Mardi Gras Ball for the benefit of the Community Hospital and cleared \$674.05, the largest amount of money taken in one evening in Camden.

The New England Conference will be entertained this fall by the Vermont Federation, probably at Burlington. Data and other details will be announced in the papers later. Mrs. Harry Burnham, Chairman of the Conference, hopes there will be as large a Maine delegation as at Whitefield last fall.



## ORONO WOMAN'S CLUB ACTIVE IN POLITICS

A few years ago the Orono Woman's Club took the first steps in the organization of the Orono Civic Club, which has since become one of the most useful influences in the town. To it belong representatives of all the women's organizations in the town, 18 in number. This Civic Club was instrumental in securing the services of two police matrons for Orono's public dances, and more lately, it sponsored successfully the election at town meeting of two women overseers of the poor. It has given yearly some form of entertainment to raise money for the Town Library, securing in all over \$850. This civic committee was originally the idea of Dr. Caroline Colvin.

## LISBON FALLS SHAKESPEARE CLUB READS ALOUD

The secretary of the Lisbon Falls Shakespeare Club writes: Our club was formed in 1898 for the purpose of reading Shakespeare and has followed its original plan with the exception of taking a Bay View course two years and a course from the National Geographic Magazine one year. The club of twenty members meets every week from November to May. Every meeting is opened by reading from the Bible. One year the entire book of Luke was read and at the end of the club year one of the ministers gave a talk to the club on Luke. This year we have read one or more Psalms at each meeting. This is followed by a roll call answered by quotations from some author or by current events. After the usual business meeting each member reads in turn from Shakespeare as we believe reading aloud to be an excellent practice. Lisbon Falls has a community house which contains the only library in town. The Shakespeare Club has contributed to its support and has donated books and a large picture of Longfellow.

We have tried to do our best by contributing to worthy organizations and meeting the demands of our State Federation as best we could, always paying our dues promptly. We were honored this year by a visit from our State President, Miss Witherle, and to say that we enjoyed it is expressing it very mildly. Her club activities was helpful and inspiring.

## NEWCASTLE-DAMARISCOTTA CLUB ROOMS CIVIC CENTER

The Newcastle-Damariscotta Woman's Club rooms have been a social center for the community the past winter, the club having given a number of events to which the community has been invited.

The large undertaking of the year has been to raise a fund for a steam heating plant for the Library building and the gatherings have been dinners, card parties, little plays, etc., given for the

## ATTENTION—NOTES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

A small sheet containing the Club Collect, the Salute to the Flag, and the words of the Pines of Maine, Maine Song and America the Beautiful, can be obtained from Mrs. B. J. Young for 2c each.

\* \* \*

The Council Meeting of the General Federation will be held in Grand Rapids May 30 to June 4. Any club woman who can attend the meeting is asked to communicate at once with Miss Witherle. Every club in direct membership is entitled to send as delegate its president or an alternate. The Maine Federation is entitled to be represented by six delegates.

\* \* \*

No definite information can be given at this time as to the place and date of the Annual Meeting of the Maine Federation. Watch the papers for details later.

\* \* \*

The New England Conference will be entertained this fall by Vermont probably in Burlington. Mrs. Burnham, chairman of the Conference, hopes that Maine will send as large a delegation to Vermont as went to Whitefield last October.

benefit of that fund. A good sum has been realized and it is expected the furnace will be installed before another winter.

Other community service of the club includes the establishing of a Junior Prize Speaking given by Lincoln Academy students, the Club giving prizes in gold; and the usual work of the Social Service Committee in aiding the needy and sending cheer to shut-ins.

The Club had six out of town speakers, including Miss Anna C. Witherle, State Federation president, Miss Florence Hale from the State Dept. of Education, Morton G. Soule from the State Dept. of Agriculture, Prin. C. S. Sewall of Wiscasset who was the speaker at the reception for the public school teachers, and who brought many Esquimo curios to illustrate his talk on his summer North with MacMillan. Two afternoons have been given to the art of music with addresses by Prof. Frederick E. Chapman of Lincoln Academy. Several Travel Talks by members who have visited many lands, and Absent Members Day, with letters from members who winter in cities on both sides of the Atlantic, have helped make up a program of unusual merit.

Perhaps the greatest achievement of the year is a large attendance at all meetings with remarkable co-operation in all departments in the union of all for the good of all.

—X—

## ITEMS FROM OTHER STATES

Objectives of Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs:

To teach and emphasize law observance.

Every child in Minnesota receiving religious instruction in his own church.

A clean milk ordinance passed and enforced in every community in Minnesota.

A junior department for every club.

Every club woman in Minnesota a voter at every election.

Active support of the Great Lakes Tidewater Project.

At least one tree planted by every club woman in Minnesota—especially living Christmas trees.

More singing in the clubs.

## SIDEWALK FUND

### AIDED AT BUCKSPORT

The October Club has had an active and prosperous year. The most important and possibly the best work of the club is its contribution to Civic Welfare. The club voted \$300 towards a strip of permanent sidewalk. This sum was presented to the town at the last town meeting. In accepting the gift of the club, the town agreed to appropriate an equal amount, and to match dollar for dollar every sum the club could raise up to \$500. By soliciting contributions from property owners along the contemplated route of the new sidewalk, \$200 more was raised. By this means Bucksport will have available \$1000 which will lay a fine strip of four feet sidewalk on Main Street.

The Educational Committee has arranged two moving picture benefits—part of the proceeds being used to provide low benches, rubber and umbrella racks for the new public school building; the remainder being used to improve and beautify the town. The club has given the National Geographic Magazine to the Grammar School, contributed to the Near East Relief, sold Health Bonds and Seals, also bought a Health Bond. The Blodgett Class has followed an interesting course of study throughout the year.

—X—

## SOLON WOMAN'S CLUB

The Solon Woman's Club consists of 25 active and two honorary members. We have met regularly every two weeks with various topics discussed, both educational and helpful. We also have added this year the taking of a small collection, called "The Sick Fund." We are expecting to entertain our State President before May 18th.

The Solon Woman's Club organized the library which after two years was taken over by the town. The president and treasurer of the club, however, still serve in the same capacities on the library board.



# Maine Federation News

Miss ANNA C. WITHERLE, President

Mrs. BERNICE J. YOUNG, Editor

VOLUME III.

SEPTEMBER, 1927

NO. 3

## TENTATIVE PROGRAM FOR

### ANNUAL MEETING M. F. W. C.

The sessions of the Annual Meeting of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs will be held in the United Baptist Church in Lewiston, October 4-7.

The first session will be at 2 P.M., Tuesday, October 4. After the usual opening exercises, a welcome to the Federation will be extended by Mrs. Royal B. Record, president of the Androscoggin County Literary Union, and a welcome to Lewiston and Auburn by the mayors of the two cities. The response to addresses of welcome will be given by Mrs. John T. Skolfield, First Vice-President of the Maine Federation. This will be followed by greetings from past presidents and guests and by various matters of business, including reports from several chairmen, from the unions and from clubs.

#### Tuesday Evening

On Tuesday evening the hostess clubs will entertain the Federation at a reception in Chase Hall, Bates College. It is hoped that a brief greeting will be given by President Gray of Bates College. Music will be furnished by the Auburn Trio.

#### Wednesday

At Kennebunkport many urged that more time be given to the conference of club presidents, so it is planned to have such a conference at 8.15 on Wednesday morning and again on Thursday. The general session on Wednesday will open at 9.10. The address of the President will be followed by reports of the Federation officers. Resolutions read on Tuesday will be submitted to a vote on Wednesday morning session.

Nominations for State officers will be made on Wednesday.

Reports of the divisions of Fine Arts and of Applied Education will be read.

Wednesday afternoon the session will open with music. Mrs. Irvin Bowker of Portland, will report the Council Meeting at Grand Rapids, and Mrs. Harry Burnham will report the meeting of the New England Conference at Burlington, Vt. The report of Club Extension by Mrs. C. B. Porter will be followed by reports from clubs that have joined the Federation the last year and by reports of the Legislative Chairman and of the chairman of the divisions of American Citizenship. Business will follow.

On Wednesday evening the Convention will have the pleasure of listening to an address by Charles W. Tobey of Manchester, N. H. Mr. Tobey was one of the most inter-

## CALL

The annual meeting of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs will be held in Lewiston October 4 to 7, by invitation of the Auburn and Lewiston clubs. The opening session will begin promptly at 2:30 o'clock on the afternoon of October 4. The closing session will be held on the morning of October 7.

Presidents, Presidents' appointees and delegates will present Credential Cards properly signed to the Credential Committee upon arrival in Lewiston.

The leading hotels are the DeWitt House (European plan), Lewiston; Elm House (American plan), Auburn; Atwood Hotel (European plan), Lewiston. If accommodations cannot be secured in these hotels, write Mrs. Charles W. Eaton, 27 Vine Street, Auburn, Chairman of Housing Committee.

esting speakers on New England problems at the New England Conference last fall and several Maine delegates expressed a desire to have him speak to our Federation. Under the subject, "A Balanced Ration," he will touch on the essentials of citizenship and the real business of living.

#### Thursday

On Thursday morning the memorial service will be held, appropriate music being followed by the Necrologist's report by Mrs. Wm. E. Brewster.

At some session on Thursday, depending on her time of arrival, Mrs. Walter McNab Miller, General Federation Chairman of Public Welfare, will address the Federation. Mrs. Miller has recently returned from two international women's conferences in Europe and will have much of inspiration and suggestion to give to our Maine clubs. Further reports, business and the election of officers will complete the day—and it is probable that a drive will be arranged by the hostess clubs with the co-operation of the Chamber of Commerce, late Thursday afternoon.

Thursday evening the speaker will be Mr. John Clair Minot, literary editor of the Boston Herald, who will tell us "What to Read This Winter."

#### Friday

Friday morning will give time for the closing business, introduction of new officers, etc.

## MAINE CLUBS ANSWER

### MRS. SHERMAN'S QUESTIONS

To many people the very word "questionnaire" is distasteful, suggesting useless details and dry facts. But the questionnaire sent out by Mrs. Sherman to every one of the more than 15,000 federated clubs aroused much interest and brought out facts of vital importance in the past, present and future development of the club movement. Reports from Washington headquarters show that answers to the questionnaire were received from only 64 Maine clubs. It was planned to keep a duplicate copy of all answers for the Maine Federation archives but this plan could be carried out only in part. From the 40 or more replies that were sent to the Maine Federation President various items of interest have been selected for this issue of the News.

As Mrs. Sherman said in the introduction to her questionnaire,—"The achievements of women's clubs are much greater than we realize and years from now we shall look back and wish we had a record of these achievements." She felt that every club has distinctive work to its credit and therefore asked club presidents to aid in securing a record of this work by answering five questions.

The first question asked for the best achievements in the last two years, while the second question inquired as to "any notable civic, educational, legislative or welfare achievement which the club had initiated or 'put over' at any time."

As in other summaries of club work the activities of the larger clubs stand out most prominently at first glance but in proportion to their size many of the smaller Maine clubs have records of equal value, both as to study and as to community service.

#### Androscoggin County W. L. U.

Among the large clubs the Woman's Literary Union of Androscoggin County has an enviable record in the list of community projects initiated or "put over" since the formation of the Union in 1892. One of the first things of note which the Union did was to place a good picture in each of the public schools in the county. Through the efforts of the Union the first kindergarten in the two cities was established nearly thirty years ago, and manual training and domestic science were introduced into the city schools. In 1913 or 14 the Civics Department "put over" a very thorough "clean up" campaign, winning a shield for the second best work done in New England. About twenty years

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